

# *The Beastly Arms*

by Patrick Jennings

## Questions

1. Who is Miriam?  
Answer: Nickel's pet kangaroo rat (p. 3 PB)
2. Why are Nickel and his mom moving?  
Answer: Mr. Yodel is raising the rent again. (p. 3 HB)
3. Nickel saw people as animals. What animal does he resemble?  
Answer: A bush baby (p. 9 PB)
4. Nickel takes photographs as a hobby. Where does he go to develop his negatives?  
Answer: The darkroom at City College (p. 19 HB)
5. What was Nickel's writing assignment?  
Answer: He had to interview an adult unrelated to him. (p. 28 HB)
6. What do Nickel and Inez do at the public library?  
Answer: Watch nature films (p. 34 HB)
7. Why does Nickel use three fifty-page sketch books?  
Answer: To make drawings of clouds (p. 115 PB)
8. Who or what is the subject of Nickel's writing assignment?  
Answer: Mr. Beastly (p. 161 HB)
9. Nickel and Inez both earned A's on their writing assignment. Inez celebrated by turning a cartwheel. What happened next?  
Answer: A blue car hit her. (p. 185 HB)
10. When Nickel can't sleep in his new apartment he goes up to the roof. What animal does he see?  
Answer: A barn owl (p. 213 HB)

# *The City of Ember*

by Jeanne DuPrau

## Questions

1. What year is it in *The City of Ember*?  
Answer: Year 241 (p. 35 HB)
2. At what age do students finish school in order to begin their jobs?  
Answer: Twelve (p. 5 HB)
3. What job does Doon wish he had?  
Answer: Electrician's helper (p. 15 HB)
4. What does Lina like to draw?  
Answer: Imaginary cities (p. 24 HB)
5. Where did Lina's father work before he died?  
Answer: The greenhouse (p. 57 HB)
6. What is the title of Doon's drawing book?  
Answer: *Crawling and Flying Things* (p. 52 HB)
7. What is the title of the document Lina finds in her home?  
Answer: *Instructions for Egress* (p. 171 HB)
8. Who was Lina's great-grandfather?  
Answer: Seventh mayor of the city of Ember (p. 56 HB)
9. Lina and Doon are accused of what crime?  
Answer: Spreading vicious rumors (p. 205 HB)
10. Who finds Lina and Doon's note?  
Answer: Mrs. Murdo (p. 270 HB)

# *Esperanza Rising*

by Pam Munoz Ryan

## Questions

1. What did Esperanza think when she pricked her finger on a thorn?  
Answer: She thought it was bad luck. (p. 8 PB)
2. What did Sr. Rodriguez bring on the morning of Esperanza's birthday?  
Answer: Papayas (p. 24 PB)
3. What is the green, grape-like fruit of the rose called?  
Answer: Rosehip (p. 35 PB)
4. Who took Abuelita away in a wagon?  
Answer: Her sisters – the nuns (p. 50 PB)
5. Where in the wagon did Mama, Esperanza and Hortensia ride on the way to Zacatecas?  
Answer: Under a second floor in the wagon (p. 58 PB)
6. What did Mama make for the little girl on the train?  
Answer: A yarn doll (p. 71 PB)
7. What did Marta call Esperanza the first time she tried to sweep the platform?  
Answer: Cinderella (p. 117 PB)
8. What kind of storm started with a sudden blast of hot wind?  
Answer: Dust storm (p. 147 PB)
9. What does Esperanza buy from the market with the money she saved?  
Answer: Money orders (p. 149 PB)
10. Who took the money orders from Esperanza's valise?  
Answer: Miguel (p. 234 PB)

# *Fever 1793*

by Laurie Halse Anderson

## Questions

1. What is the name of Mattie's mother and grandfather's coffee house?  
Answer: Cook Coffeehouse (p. 7 PB)
2. Where is the Cook Coffeehouse located in Philadelphia?  
Answer: On the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and High Street (p. 7 PB)
3. What is an epidemic? What is the disease in *Fever 1793*?  
Answer: An epidemic is a rapidly spreading outbreak of disease. The disease is Yellow Fever.  
(p. 20 PB)
4. Why is the first frost so important?  
Answer: The first frost helped kill the mosquitoes that transmitted the disease during hot weather.  
(p. 210 PB)
5. What do the following words mean?
  - Victuals - Supplies of food (p. 8 PB)
  - Drought - Long period of dry weather without rain or water (p. 29 PB)
  - Quarantine - Period of time during which a person with a contagious disease is forbidden to move out of certain area to prevent the spread of the disease (p. 38 PB)
  - Noxious - Causing harm, such as fumes (p. 20 PB)
  - Fripperies - Fanciful accessories (p. 38 PB)
6. What killed Mattie's grandfather?  
Answer: He defended Mattie from two men and hit his head. (p. 146 PB)
7. What doctor worked in Philadelphia during the yellow fever epidemic?  
Answer: Dr. Benjamin Rush (p. 249 PB)
8. List four precautions published by the College of Physicians.
  - a. Mark the homes of the sick.
  - b. Bury the dead privately.
  - c. Avoid being in the sun, drafts, and evening air.
  - d. Placed sick people in the center of a large airy room. (p. 58 PB)
9. What type of paintings or subjects did Charles Peale paint?  
Answer: Flowers (still lifes) and portraits (p. 75 and 246 PB)
10. What type of extras did Mattie want to add to the Cook Coffeehouse?  
Answer: She wanted to own the whole city block and have a proper restaurant and apothecary, maybe a school or a hatter's shop also. (p. 12 PB)

# *Flight to Freedom*

by Ana Veciana-Suarez

## Questions

1. In the beginning of the story, Uncle Camilo risked imprisonment when he brought Yara's family what gifts from the country?  
Answer: Food (p. 5 PB)
2. What type of leaves are used to cover the piles of tobacco leaves?  
Answer: Plantain leaves (p. 13 PB)
3. What did Yara's mother do when they arrived in the United States that was hard for Yara to get used to?  
Answer: She cut her hair. (p. 41 PB)
4. What kind of clothing did Yara pray for so that she could be dressed more like the other girls at school and like the model Twiggy?  
Answer: Fishnet stockings (p. 47 PB)
5. What sport was very popular in Cuba?  
Answer: Baseball (p. 69 PB)
6. For Halloween, what did Efrain's boss send Yara's family?  
Answer: Two toothbrushes (p. 76 PB)
7. What is Yara's secret concerning her Mama?  
Answer: Her Mama is learning to drive. (p. 98 PB)
8. What holiday did Yara's family exchange presents on instead of Christmas?  
Answer: Three Kings Day (p. 107 PB)
9. Yara struggled with where her home really was located, either in Cuba or Miami. Her sister, Ileana, told her that her home was where?  
Answer: Where her heart is (p. 135 PB)
10. What game did Yara play with her family every winter Sunday when they lived in Cuba?  
Answer: Dominoes (p. 144 PB)

# *Flipped*

by Wendelin Van Draanen

## Questions

1. Who did Bryce use as a girlfriend in order to get Juli to leave him alone?  
Answer: Shelly Stalls (p. 7 HB)
2. What was the first thing that Juli noticed and loved about Bryce?  
Answer: His eyes (p. 11 HB)
3. How did Juli's mom describe the sycamore tree?  
Answer: She called the tree a "testimony to endurance." (p. 34 HB)
4. Juli's chick eggs were originally labeled A, B, C, D, E, and F. What names did she give them later?  
Answer: Abby, Bonnie, Clyde, Dexter, Eunice, and Florence (p. 70 HB)
5. What do Juli's Uncle David and Bryce have in common?  
Answer: Both were born with the umbilical cord wrapped around their necks. (p. 93 HB)
6. When Darla Tressler catches Bryce staring at Juli in class, what explanation does he give?  
Answer: Bryce claims that there is a bee in Juli's hair. (p. 124 HB)
7. What gift does Bryce give to Juli to show that he has changed?  
Answer: A sycamore tree sapling (p. 210 HB)
8. Why did Juli whisper spelling words to Bryce?  
Answer: She wanted to save him from having lunch detention, in hopes that he might want to have lunch with her. (p. 18 HB)
9. What song does Juli sing to her chickens?  
Answer: *My Girl* (p. 54 HB)
10. During Bryce's Basket Boy lunch with Miranda and Shelly, what does he ask them to talk about?  
Answer: Perpetual motion (p. 180 HB)

# *The Gadget*

by Paul Zindel

## Questions

1. What happened to Stephen's cousin Jackson?  
Answer: He died when the roof he was on crumbled during a bombing in London. (p. 7 HB)
2. Where did Stephen go to meet his Dad?  
Answer: Los Alamos, New Mexico (p. 11 HB)
3. Who was the top scientist on the secret project his Dad was working on?  
Answer: Robert Oppenheimer (p. 25 HB)
4. What did Dr. Soifer give to Stephen when he visited him in the hospital?  
Answer: Sunglasses (p. 47 HB)
5. Which United States President died in the story?  
Answer: Franklin D. Roosevelt (p. 96 HB)
6. What is the "name" of the street Stephen and his father live on?  
Answer: Bathtub Row (p. 15 HB)
7. Alexei's father is from a foreign country. Which country is it?  
Answer: Russia (p. 70 HB)
8. What kind of bridge did Stephen have to cross to escape the spies who were chasing him?  
Answer: Railroad bridge (p. 157 HB)
9. What were the scientists working hard to end?  
Answer: World War II (p. 169 HB)
10. What was the Los Alamos secret project?  
Answer: Building a workable Atomic bomb (p. 147 HB)

# *The Ghost Sitter*

by Peni R. Dutton Griffin

## Questions

1. What did Shannon see in the empty house on the Fourth of July?  
Answer: Greenish lights bobbing around the windows (p. 15 PB)
2. How does a person feel when Susie touches her?  
Answer: Icy cold (p. 24 PB)
3. How does the neighborhood celebrate the Fourth of July?  
Answer: With a block party (p. 3 PB)
4. During the séance which part of Susie did the girls first see floating in the air?  
Answer: Her hands (p. 46 PB)
5. What computer game does Susie play when the family is away?  
Answer: *Tetris* (p. 60 PB)
6. Why can't Susie move beyond the property boundaries?  
Answer: She promised Charlotte, her sister, she would stay home. (p. 72 PB)
7. Why did Shannon have to go to the library?  
Answer: To do research for a summer school assignment – events that occurred on her and her dad's birthday (p. 81 PB)
8. How does Charlotte contact Susie's sister?  
Answer: She leaves a note at Susie's grave. (p. 105 PB)
9. What dish did Charlotte and her stepfather make for the 4th of July block party?  
Answer: Potato salad (p. 108 PB)
10. Why does Susie's sister say she killed Susie?  
Answer: She picked up the lighted firecracker thrown into their yard. (p.116 PB)

# *Rising Water*

by P. J. Petersen

## Questions

1. Kevin Marsh has come to work at the Animal Center as a part of what program?  
Answer: Operation Start Over (page 5 HB)
2. Kevin now lives with his father, after getting kicked out of his mother's house for what reason?  
Answer: Talking back to his step-father (p.8 HB)
3. Why did Luke agree to go to Mrs. Peeples' house in his boat?  
Answer: To feed her old dog (p. 18 HB)
4. What was in the black garbage bag that Kevin retrieved from Mrs. Inman's kitchen?  
Answer: Dolls (p. 39 HB)
5. Why did Kevin say that he and Tracy made a good team of "fox chasers?"  
Answer: Because they had rescued a drowning fox together (p. 53-4 HB)
6. Why was Luke suspicious of the grey split-level house?  
Answer: All the windows and doors were tightly closed except for one door. (p. 58 HB)
7. Where did Tracy get the cushion to plug up the hole in the boat?  
Answer: It was a vinyl sofa cushion. (p. 82 HB)
8. How did the men in the kayak know that Kevin and Tracy were headed their way in the boat?  
Answer: They had cell phones and were communicating with their friend in the house. (p. 76 HB)
9. Tracy used the capture stick to help save Luke and Kevin from the robbers. What did she do?  
Answer: She used the stick to capture the shotgun and throw it into the water. (p. 100 HB)
10. Why did Luke insist on staying behind at the house that had been broken into even though Tracy and Kevin decided to leave?  
Answer: He wanted to see the faces of the robbers, so he could identify them to the authorities. (p. 71-2 HB)

# *Skeleton Man*

by Joseph Bruchac

## Questions

1. What is the name that Molly and her classmates have for their teacher, Ms. Shabbas, and why do they call her that name?  
Answer: Ms. Showbiz – because she sings showtunes to her class (p. 2 PB)
2. When should you sing the Lonesome song?  
Answer: You sing it when you are all alone and need a friend. (p. 4 PB)
3. What made Molly suspicious of the wedding photograph that her great-uncle carried in his wallet?  
Answer: It had the same torn corner as the wedding photo in her father's wallet. (p.17 PB)
4. How many stairs are there from the first floor to the second floor landing at Molly's great-uncle's house?  
Answer: 36 stairs (p. 18 PB)
5. What is the name of the house that Molly's great-uncle bought?  
Answer: Dark Cedars Bed and Breakfast (p. 30 PB)
6. Who is the heroine of the novel that Molly reads before bed that Ms. Shabbas had recommended?  
Answer: Charlotte Doyle (p. 42 PB)  
\*extra credit: Give the title and author of that novel – *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* by Avi
7. What does Molly's great-uncle try to keep hidden when around other people?  
Answer: His hands (p. 45 PB)
8. What areas of the house are being watched by the video monitors?  
Answer: The front door, the back door, and the door to Molly's room (p. 68 PB)
9. Molly is named after a Mohawk warrior woman who lived during the American Revolution. What is the woman's full name?  
Answer: Molly Brant (p. 87 PB)
10. Molly's father says that there is only one way to defeat a creature like the mythical Skeleton Man. How?  
Answer: By being brave (p. 113 PB)

# *Stand Tall*

by Joan Bauer

## Questions

1. How tall is Tree?  
Answer: Six feet, three and a half inches (p. 4 HB)
2. What is the name of Tree's mother's website for her children?  
Answer: Heymom.com (p. 8 HB)
3. What occupation did Leo have that Tree also enjoyed?  
Answer: (master) electrician – taking things apart to see how they work (p. 17 HB)
4. What famous quote is on the PTA plaque in Eleanor Roosevelt Middle School's gym?  
Answer: "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent." (p. 24 HB)
5. What grade does Tree usually get from Mr. Pender, and what grade did Tree get for his oral report on Vietnam?  
Answer: C-, A (p. 31/33 HB)
6. What is Sophie Santack's motto?  
Answer: "Speak your mind and ride a fast horse" (p. 52 HB)
7. What does Coach Glummer think will help the Fighting Pit Bulls to "find the rhythm of the game, flow more as a team?"  
Answer: Ballroom dancing (p. 59 HB)
8. What present did Sophie give to her father for Christmas?  
Answer: An audiotape of her playing Christmas songs with her flute (p. 76 HB)
9. What do Leo and his grandsons steal from the sporting goods store?  
Answer: Christmas decorations and a tree (p. 88 HB)
10. Tree's grandfather, Leo, keeps trying to teach Eli's parrot Fred to say, "you're a genius." When the parrot finally says it, who is Fred praising with this phrase?  
Answer: Mr. Cosgrove, the school janitor (p. 152 HB)

## Bonus –

Match the following things with their "purpose" (p. 182 HB)

Cats	helps you work for peace
Loss	makes you glad you're still standing
Death	are good at keeping old dogs alive
War	can stop the wind so a candle of hope can burn bright
A flood	helps you reach for gain
A tall boy	helps you celebrate life

# *Surviving the Applewhites*

by Stephanie Tolan

## Questions

1. What is the name of the Applewhite's home school?  
Answer: Creative Academy (p. 3 HB)
2. What kind of animal runs by Jake with a flowered cloth in its mouth?  
Answer: Goat (p. 9 HB)
3. In what languages does the parrot speak naughty words?  
Answer: French, Spanish, Italian, and German (p. 14 HB)
4. What is E. D.'s project plan?  
Answer: To catch, photograph, and catalog every butterfly in the book *Butterflies of the Carolinas* (p. 33 HB)
5. What is the one butterfly E. D. has not caught?  
Answer: Great spangled fritillary (p. 33 HB)
6. Who was Debbie Applewhite named after?  
Answer: Debbie Reynolds, the actress (p. 62 HB)
7. What instrument does Bernstein play?  
Answer: The accordion (p. 137 HB)
8. What is unusual about casting Destiny as Gretl in the "Sound of Music" production?  
Answer: Gretl is a girl. (p. 172 HB)
9. What was the name of the barn?  
Answer: Wit's End Playhouse (p. 187 HB)
10. What color does Jake decide to make his hair when the show is over?  
Answer: Brown (p. 216 HB)

# *The Tale of Despereaux*

by Kate DiCamillo

## Questions

1. What were the first things the mice noticed about Despereaux when he was born?  
Answer: His ears were too big and his eyes were open. (p. 13 HB)
2. Who brought Despereaux to the mouse council?  
Answer: Furlough (p. 49 HB)
3. What two reasons did Despereaux give for breaking the rules of conduct?  
Answer: Music and love (p. 54 HB)
4. Who owned the red cloth that Roscuro wanted?  
Answer: The new prisoner (p. 98 HB)
5. What did Roscuro decide was the answer?  
Answer: Light (p. 105 HB)
6. What did Roscuro say to the Queen?  
Answer: "I beg your pardon." (p. 111 HB)
7. Why did the King outlaw soup?  
Answer: The Queen died while eating it. (p. 118 HB)
8. What was Miggery Sow named for? (p. 125 HB)  
Answer: Her father's prize-winning pig
9. Where was Mig when she first saw the Princess?  
Answer: In the field (p. 131 HB)
10. Why did the head mouse think he saw a ghost?  
Answer: Despereaux was covered in flour. (p. 205 HB)

# *Trouble Don't Last*

by Shelley Pearsall

## Questions

1. How much did Miz Catherine charge Lilly for the plate Samuel broke?  
Answer: Four dollars (p. 4 PB)
2. After they whipped the slaves, what did they pour into their open wounds?  
Answer: Salt (p. 23 PB)
3. How did Samuel get the scar on his finger?  
Answer: Seth held it in the candle flame. (p. 47 PB)
4. Who or what were Ham and Eggs?  
Answer: They were a skinny man and a yellow dog. (p. 141 PB)
5. What did the river man make Samuel practice at least 20 times?  
Answer: His walk (p. 91 PB)
6. What was the one thing that Harrison asked for from his tow sack that the river man took?  
Answer: gray yarn (p. 93 PB)
7. Who did the gray yarn belong to originally?  
Answer: Samuel's momma (p.100 PB)
8. After staying in the widow's cellar, where did Samuel and Harrison stay next?  
Answer: In a church (p.128 PB)
9. What did Samuel wear to slip past his master from the church?  
Answer: A dress (p. 139 PB)
10. How did Samuel's mother let Lilly and Harrison know where she was?  
Answer: She sent the gray yarn along with "Chatham Cannady" written on a piece of paper.  
(p. 168 PB)

# *Undercurrents*

by Willo Davis Roberts

## Questions

1. Why does Bonnie want to live on campus?  
Answer: She wants to get away from her home and family. (p. 6 HB)
2. What is Crystal's job? (p. 22 HB)  
Answer: Book Illustrator
3. What does Nikki spill all over Crystal at the picnic?  
Answer: Jello Salad (p. 23 HB)
4. What kind of job does Nikki get for the summer?  
Answer: She uses a word processing program to type a manuscript. (p. 96 HB)
5. What does Nikki think is peculiar about Crystal at the wedding?  
Answer: She has no friends or family. (p. 38 HB)
6. How does Crystal react to the news she has inherited an estate?  
Answer: Scared (p. 45 HB)
7. What was Mom's idea of vacation dinnerware?  
Answer: Eating on paper plates (p. 70 HB)
8. What would Julian prefer to do rather than working on the computer?  
Answer: Play his guitar (p. 103 HB)
9. What did Crystal wear to disguise herself when she entered the store?  
Answer: A scarf and dark glasses (p. 160 HB)
10. What did Crystal do to her beautiful silvery hair?  
Answer: She dyed it brown. (p. 190 HB)